MONROE COUNTY NEWS RELEASE

NEWS RELEASE: #15

DATE: April 6, 2003 **TIME:** 9:30 p.m.

DOYLE URGES DRIVERS TO USE CAUTION DURING MORNING COMMUTE

SOME SIGNAL LIGHTS STILL AFFECTED BY ICE STORM POWER OUTAGE

Monroe County Executive Jack Doyle tonight reminded those motorists required to commute to work Monday morning that they should anticipate longer travel time than usual since a number of signal lights continue to be affected by the ice storm's power outage.

"Motorists should use extra care when approaching intersections since the ice storm's power outage has left a number of signal lights not working." said Doyle. "Drivers should plan ahead and add extra time to their commute. They should be mindful of working utility crews and the possibility of fallen debris along the road." Doyle said. "Driver patience and courtesy will be the key to arriving at work safely and on time."

City, County and State law enforcement officers will assist drivers during rush hour at some intersection where traffic lights remain inoperative. Drivers should be on the alert for officers at managed intersections.

All intersections where traffic lights are without power should be treated as four-way stops. Additionally, motorists noting inoperative signal lights or lights that may be flashing should call 760-7760 to report the problem.

While utility workers continue to work to restore power, persons required to report to work should carpool when possible or use public transportation. RTS will be running their normal schedule service and can be contacted at 654-0200 for further information on routes and times.